

Weekly Weather Crop Report

Week Ending April 20, 1997

Released April 21, 1997

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According to the Mississippi Agricultural Statistics Service, there were 6.2 days suitable for fieldwork for the week ending April 20, 1997. The main farming activities for the week included planting cotton, soybeans and other crops. Cool weather conditions have delayed seed germination and emergence for most crops. Soil moisture conditions were rated 14 percent short, 79 percent adequate and 7 percent surplus.

Progress In Percentages						Conditions in Percentages				
Item	Event	This Week	Last Week	1996	5-Yr Avg	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
Corn	Planted	88	79	86	70	0	4	33	53	10
	Emerged	60	47	50	45					
Cotton	Planted	3	1	2	8	---	---	---	---	---
Rice	Planted	55	26	46	40	0	1	56	41	2
	Emerged	6	1	21	18					
Sorghum	Planted	39	22	46	33	0	2	45	51	2
	Emerged	7	4	22	17					
Soybeans	Planted	16	5	15	7	---	---	---	---	---
Wheat	Jointing	100	97	92	93	2	15	36	43	4
	Heading	72	53	35	42					
Peanuts	Planted	2	0	5	9	---	---	---	---	---
Sweet potatoes	Planted	7	0	5	4	---	---	---	---	---
Watermelons	Planted	70	41	51	49	0	4	24	56	16
Cattle						0	4	21	56	19
Pasture						0	6	20	57	17

County Agent Comments

"Previous rains still have grounds wet below the surface. Warmer temperatures and gusty winds seem to have really dried out the top of tilled ground. Corn that has emerged is not growing because of cool soil and wet conditions."

— Houston Therrell, Rankin County

"Corn planting was the main farming activity this past week. Some good stands exist in early planted corn. Wheat is heading and in good condition."

— Melvin Oatis, Benton County

"Cold conditions have delayed germination and emergence of corn. Fields are being prepared for soybeans but will not be planted until we have favorable weather."

— Ronald L. Jones, Marshall County

"Cold weather is slowing seed germination and raising concerns about the fruit crop. Fruit crops did survive the weather and corn planting is nearing completion."

— Ricky Ferguson, Pontotoc County

"Corn planting resumed this past week. Cold weather has set back emerged corn and damaged gardens and ornamentals. Warm temperatures and a very good shower are badly needed now."

— Dalton G. Garner, Prentiss County

"Cool nights are slowing up crop growth as well as grass. Everyone is waiting on temperatures to stabilize and for soil temperature to increase."

— Ruby Rankin, Kemper County

"We could use a half inch rain and warmer temperatures to begin planting next week."

— David Roberts, Monroe County

This publication is part of a series that first began in 1872 and continuously published since. In Mississippi, this report is a result of the cooperative efforts of:

U.S. Department of Agriculture
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Ronald A. Brown, Director

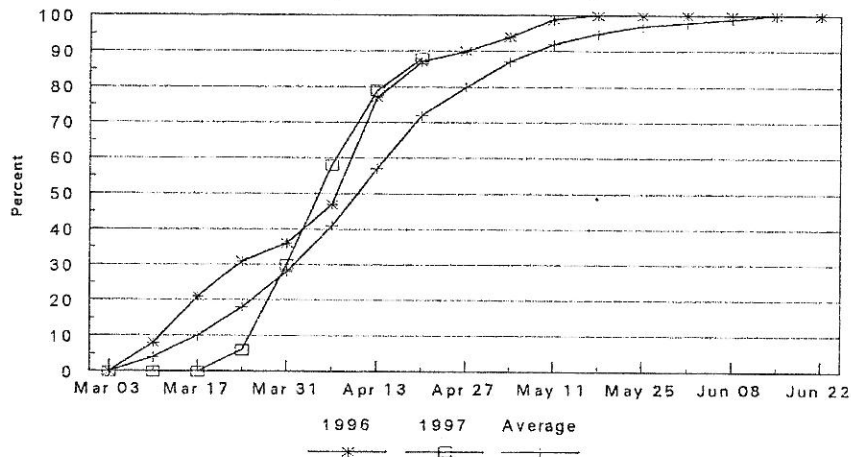
Southern Regional
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Jay Grymes, Operations Manager

U.S. Department of Agriculture
Mississippi Agricultural
Statistics Service
Thomas L. Gregory, State Statistician

Mississippi weather data is unavailable for week ending April 20, 1997.

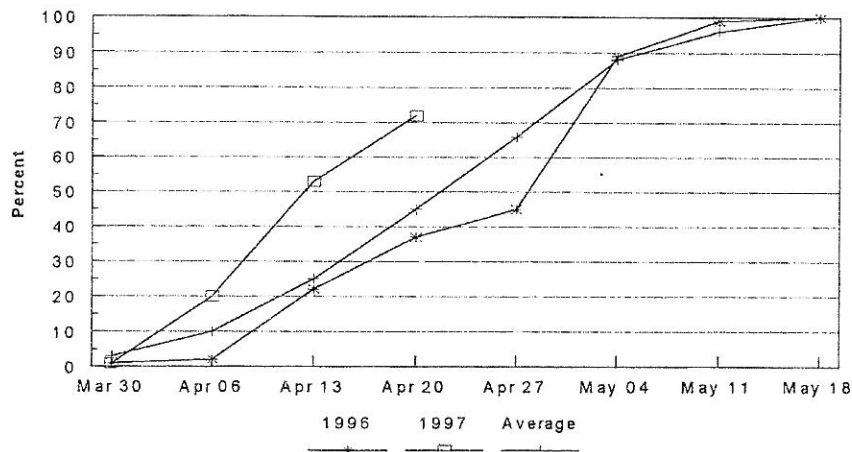
Corn Planted

1996, 1997 and Five Year Average



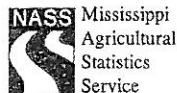
Wheat Heading

1996, 1997 and Five Year Average



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National Agricultural Statistics Service
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